

Amendments to Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) An intervertebral support for restoring and maintaining an anatomical intervertebral spacing and for restoring three-dimensional mobility where the support is installed, the support comprising:

an anterior portion and a posterior portion,

wherein the anterior portion, having a substantially planar face, has a planar face, and upper and lower faces configured to respectively receive suitable for being positioned in the space between the underlying and overlying laminae of two adjacent vertebrae[[,]] for restoring an anatomical intervertebral spacing, [[and]]

wherein the [[a]] posterior portion comprising a support surface configured to abut against the laminae, and the support surface having at least a height greater than a height of the planar face so as to form a retaining member for preventing the support from migrating towards the anterior portion of the spine by pressing against the laminae, the posterior portion having a front portion and top and bottom faces, and the retaining member further comprises two transverse projections, one of which extends from a top face of the posterior portion, and the other of which extends from a bottom face of the posterior portion, and the planar face of the anterior portion having a smaller surface area than the front portion of the posterior portion

wherein the anterior portion extends outwardly from the support surface of the posterior portion so that a shoulder is formed between the planar face of the anterior portion and the support surface of the posterior portion, and

wherein the upper and lower faces are located on the shoulder.

23-24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 22, wherein the upper and lower faces form grooves ~~anterior portion is provided with grooves between the planar face of the anterior portion and the front portion of the posterior portion.~~

26-27. (Canceled).

28. (Previously Presented) A support according to claim 22, wherein the posterior portion serves to damp movements between two adjacent vertebrae.

29. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 22, wherein ~~[[the]]~~a bottom face of the posterior portion bears on a top portion of a process at a bottom of ~~[[the]]~~a space fitted with the support.

30. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 22, wherein the posterior portion is prismatic in shape and of a height that corresponds to ~~[[the]]~~a spacing between the adjacent vertebrae, presenting at least one rounded corner, a top face of the posterior portion being triangular in shape, so as to receive the junction point formed by the lamina and processes.

31. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 22, wherein the posterior portion presents a tapering shape that permits a ~~certain~~ freedom of movement between the a top face of the support and laminae located above ~~[[the]]~~a region fitted with the support.

32. (Previously Presented) A support according to claim 22, wherein the posterior portion presents a top surface and a bottom surface that are flared to the anterior end of the support, tapering progressively towards the posterior ends of said surfaces, and receiving the junction point formed by the lamina and the process.

33. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 22, wherein ~~[[the]]~~a core of the posterior portion is pierced by a through recess, enabling ~~[[the]]~~ flexibility of the ~~implant support~~ to be increased.

34-35. (Canceled).

36. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 22, wherein at least the posterior portion is made of silicone having hardness lying in the range 40 to 80 on the Shore A scale, allowing freedom of movement in ~~[[the]]~~ a region fitted with the ~~implant support~~, and flexibility in order to relieve lordosis.

37. (Previously Presented) A support according to claim 22, wherein a biocompatible knit fabric covers at least part of the posterior portion of the support.

38. (Previously Presented) A support according to claim 22, wherein the anterior portion of the support has a loop of rigid biocompatible material in its center.

39. (Previously Presented) A support according to claim 22, wherein the anterior portion of the support is constituted entirely out of rigid biocompatible material.

40. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 22, including additional retention means constituted by ligaments crossing in ~~[[the]]~~ a center of the support, and holes extending vertically for passing the ligaments.

41. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 22, including additional retaining means constituted by independent ligaments passing through ~~[[the]]~~ a full height of the support.

42. (Canceled).

43. (Currently Amended) An intervertebral support for restoring and maintaining an anatomical intervertebral spacing and for restoring three-dimensional mobility where the support is installed, the support comprising:

an anterior portion and a posterior portion,
wherein the anterior portion, having a substantially planar face, has a planar face, and
upper and lower faces configured to respectively receive ~~suitable for being positioned in the-~~

~~space between~~ the underlying and overlying laminae of two adjacent vertebrae~~[[,]]~~ for restoring an anatomical intervertebral spacing, ~~[[and]]~~

wherein the [[a]] posterior portion comprising a support surface configured to abut against the laminae, and the support surface having at least a height greater than a height of the planar face so as to form a retaining member for preventing the support from migrating towards the anterior portion of the spine by pressing against the laminae,

wherein the retaining member includes lateral shoulders set back from the anterior portion suitable for being received against the laminae of the vertebrae as close as possible to the articular facets,

wherein the anterior portion extends outwardly from the support surface of the posterior portion so that a shoulder is formed between the planar face of the anterior portion and the support surface of the posterior portion, and

wherein the upper and lower faces are located on the shoulder.

44. (Previously Presented) A support according to claim 43, wherein the lateral shoulders are of small area being of the type having symmetrically-opposite projecting bulges set back from the anterior portion and suitable for releasing movement of the vertebral articular facets.

45. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 43, wherein the upper and lower faces form grooves ~~wherein the anterior portion is provided with grooves~~, and wherein the lateral shoulders present height that does not exceed ~~[[the]]~~ a height of the posterior portion of the support, and are narrow in width.

46. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 43, wherein the posterior portion presents a top surface and a bottom surface that are flared to the anterior end of the support, tapering progressively towards ~~[[the]]~~ posterior ends of said surfaces, and receiving ~~[[the]]~~ a junction point formed by the lamina and the process.

47. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 43, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a core of the posterior portion is pierced by a through recess, enabling ~~[[the]]~~ flexibility of the ~~implant support~~ to be increased.

48. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 43, wherein a core of the posterior portion carries teeth spaced apart by furrows, and opposed to each other in pairs on [[the]] bottom and top faces of the posterior portion, enabling the flexibility of the assembly to be varied.

49. (Currently Amended) A support according to claim 43, wherein at least the posterior portion is made of silicone having hardness lying in the range 40 to 80 on the Shore A scale, allowing freedom of movement in [[the]] a region fitted with the implant support, and flexibility in order to relieve lordosis.

50. (Previously Presented) A support according to claim 43, wherein a top face of the posterior portion presents a shallow groove extending lengthwise in its middle and suitable for coming into contact with a process above the region fitted with the implant.

51. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method for restoring and maintaining anatomical intervertebral spacing, and for restoring three-dimensional mobility where an intervertebral support is installed, the method comprising:

providing an intervertebral support including anterior and posterior portions, ~~the posterior portion having a retaining member;~~

wherein the anterior portion has a planar face, and upper and lower faces configured to respectively receive underlying and overlying laminae of two adjacent vertebrae for restoring an anatomical intervertebral spacing,

wherein the posterior portion comprises a support surface configured to abut against the laminae, and the support surface having at least a height greater than a height of the planar face so as to form a retaining member for preventing the support from migrating towards the anterior portion of the spine by pressing against the laminae,

wherein the anterior portion extends outwardly from the support surface of the posterior portion so that a shoulder is formed between the planar face of the anterior portion and the support surface of the posterior portion, and

wherein the upper and lower faces are located on the shoulder,

positioning the anterior portion of the intervertebral support in a space between the underlying and overlying laminae of two adjacent vertebrae for restoring an anatomical intervertebral spacing, and

arranging the retaining member of the posterior portion of the intervertebral support so that it presses against the laminae to prevent the intervertebral support from migrating towards the anterior portion of the spine and for restoring three-dimensional mobility.

52. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 51, wherein the retaining member includes two transverse projections, one of which extends from a top face of the posterior portion, and the other of which extends from a bottom face of the posterior portion.

53. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 51, wherein the retaining member includes lateral shoulders set back from the anterior portion suitable for being received against the laminae of the vertebrae as close as possible to the articular facets.